



# Rehabilitation

California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Rehabilitative Programs (DRP)  
Millicent Tidwell, Director

**MI** the  
big picture:

*What is MI to me?*

Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a collaborative communication style for strengthening motivation and commitment to change.



Correctional staff will use MI in institutions.

Understand **WHY**  
MI is useful for staff and inmates, and

**HOW** this  
communication tool will transform CDCR!

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*Today!*



Initially spotted as a computer screen saver, the tropical vista presents a completely different image at [Valley State Prison \(VSP\)](#) in Chowchilla. Correctional Counselor III Sheila Marquez envisioned this as a potential Reentry Beautification Project to support the institution's various rehabilitative programs. Warden Ron Davis approved the project, and the funding came directly from DRP Office of Offender Services' program for all Reentry Hub institutions to paint murals in designated facilities. The stunning scene – titled "A New Beginning" – would be interpreted by inmate artists to encourage offenders to get out—and stay out—of prison.



Ms. Marquez identified inmates from VSP's new male population to paint the mural. The three men completed the mural on an outside stucco wall during the holidays, generating much attention from other inmates and staff members. Inmate Marquez (no relation) led the artist team in modifying the original scene to a unique vision for VSP. A believer that "art is therapy", inmate Marquez has created murals in other institutions. His assistant, inmate de Luna, was most impressed by the impact the mural has created, "surprising people" as they walk the yard. Inmate Cruz, the newest member of the art team who painted much of the lush foliage, cited the "peace and unity" of the project. All three inmates have taken leadership roles in other programming initiatives.

The mural has stimulated positive activities at VSP. The inmate Men's Advisory Council (MAC) has proposed additional murals in the prison. Warden Davis created a Beautification Committee for artistically inclined inmates to express themselves in a constructive manner.

Please contact Lt. Gregory Bergersen, PIO, Valley State Prison, [gregory.bergersen@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:gregory.bergersen@cdcr.ca.gov)

*I wanted a beautiful, peaceful, inspiring mural which could be admired and also encourage the men to envision their hopes and dreams beyond the prison walls. The name, "A New Beginning", seemed to fit perfectly in that the Reentry Hub Programs provide an opportunity for the participants to start a new beginning. Sheila Marquez, Correctional Counselor III, VSP*



# Rehabilitation

# Today!

**The right inmate in  
the right program at  
the right time:**

## Academic Programs

Increase inmate reading levels to minimum 9<sup>th</sup> grade level with G.E.D. and accredited college courses also available

## Career Technical Education

Prepares inmates for viable vocational career paths upon release by training to industry certification levels

## Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

Provides evidence-based treatment for Substance Abuse, Anger Management, Family Relationships and Criminal Thinking

## Offender Mentor Certification

Trains and certifies long-term inmates as interns by California Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (CAADAC) to assist as mentors in various substance abuse treatment programs

## Pre-Employment Transition

Provides job readiness skills including job search, resume, interviewing, financial skills, access to career centers

## California Identification Card

Assists in obtaining state-issued I.D. cards used to secure employment, housing, bank accounts, travel, and more

## Reentry Hubs

Provide relevant training and services to eligible and interested inmates within 4 years of release

## Step-Down Program

Provides alternatives to criminal gang lifestyle to reduce confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU)

## Long Term Offender Program

Provides evidenced-based treatment programming in criminogenic behavior to inmates serving long-term sentences

## Community & Reentry Services

A growing network of evidence-based programs and partnerships emphasize substance abuse treatment, life skills, career development and education to help offenders transform their lives and successfully reintegrate into society



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## LTOPP Launch

### Long-Term Offender Pilot Program

Part of CDCR's Blueprint commitment is to create cognitive-based programming for the long-term offender population. The **Long-Term Offender Pilot Program (LTOPP)** is a voluntary program that provides evidenced-based programming to inmates who are serving long-term sentences. General population inmates, identified with moderate-to-high criminogenic needs by the **Correctional Offender Management and Profiling for Alternative Sanctions (COMPAS)** assessment, are placed into the appropriate program. Services are provided in individual and group settings to address these criminogenic areas: substance abuse, criminal thinking, anger management, family relationships, and victim impact.

The length of the program varies by offender based on their criminogenic needs and individualized treatment plan. This prison-based program, part of the Office of Offender Services – In-Prison Programs, is being launched at **Central California's Women's Facility (CCWF)**, **California Men's Colony (CMC)** and **California State Prison Solano (SOL)**.

DRP is also developing a parole transitional housing model, in conjunction with the Department of Adult Parole Operations, which will provide these services to life-term offenders.

More information may be found at [CDCR Today about LTOPP!](#)

**Newsletter Readers: Click on words in blue font to learn more!**

## New Solutions for Long Term Offenders Life Coaches

### San Francisco launches Parolee Mentors

Parole suitability for life term offenders has increased. The **Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO)** recognized that these offenders have unique re-entry needs unlike traditional parolees, and require specific support services (i.e. how to use a smartphone or fill out an online job application).

Citing the success of DRP's **Offender Mentor Certification Program (OMCP)** in which long term inmates are selected to train for certification as a substance abuse mentor to other offenders, DAPO Director Dan Stone determined that Peer Mentors (former "lifers" who are current or former parolees doing well within their communities and offer plenty of "lived experiences") would be the model to support this growing population.

Region II San Francisco is developing a pilot mentoring program for implementation. Dwayne Cooks, Region II Chief Deputy Regional Administrator; Steve Lin, West Bay District Administrator; and Parolee Outpatient Clinician Dr. Beth Kita assembled a group of male and female mentors seeking to "give back to society" and DAPO staff to develop benchmarks for this program's success. [Read more about similar efforts in Los Angeles.](#)

Please contact Maritza Rodriguez, Division of Adult Parole Operations, [Maritza.rodriguez@cdcr.ca.gov](mailto:Maritza.rodriguez@cdcr.ca.gov)

*I am part of CDCR mentorship program because I know what it is like not to have support and I know what it takes to be successful.*  
mentor Jose Calderon



Members of the team of parolees, agents and staff develop long term offender reentry mentor program

Check out DRP's new website: [www.cdcr.ca.gov/rehabilitation](http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/rehabilitation)